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August 10, 2004

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TO (FIRM): United States Patent And Trademark Office, Group Art Unit: 2873  
ATTN: Examiner: Evelyn A. Lester

FAX NO.: 703-872-9306

TELEPHONE:

FROM: James G. McEwen

Re: U.S. Patent Application  
Serial No.: 09/665,184  
For: EXPOSURE APPARTUS HAVING CATADIOTROPIC PROJECTION OPTICAL  
SYSTEM  
Inventor: Tomowaki Takahashi  
Our Docket: 1539.1003RE

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mitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
on 10 Aug 2004  
By: Lauren E. Mohr  
Date: 10 August 2004  
Page 1 of 2

**DOCKET NO. 1539.1003RE**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Tomowaki Takahashi

Application No.: 09/665,184

Group Art Unit: 2873

Confirmation No.: 4343

Filed: September 15, 2000

Examiner: Evelyn A Lester

For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS HAVING CATADIOPTRIC PROJECTION OPTICAL SYSTEM

**LETTER TO THE EXAMINER REQUESTING STATUS OF ISSUANCE OF ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Response And Request For Reconsideration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 filed on March 29, 2004 and a review of the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, it appears that the instant application has been allowed on May 5, 2004 and that the status is that of allowed. However, the applicant has not received the Notice of Allowance for the instant application. It is noted that the above-identified patent application is a reissue application and is to be treated as "special" and is to be acted on in advance of other applications. 37 C.F.R. §1.176(a), MPEP 1442. Moreover, the above-identified patent application has been pending for almost four (4) years, and has been allowed for over three (3) months.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the Notice of Allowance be mailed or the applicant be provided an indication of the status so that the applicant can act accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By: 

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Date: August 10, 2004